place of incident was inspected and the victim got medically examined. The accused was also got medically examined on the following day after his arrest.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Compulsory registration of marriages

826. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2214 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12 March, 2003 and state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court recently suggested to enact legislation for compulsory registration of marriages in the country to prevent menace of child marriage; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SWAMI CHINMAYANAND): (a) No such recent suggestion/decision of the Supreme Court has been brought to our notice.

(b) Question does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

Prosecution of women for adultery

827. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Justice Malimath Committee on reforming the criminal justice system has recommended that women should be prosecuted for committing adultery;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The Malimath Committee on Reforms of Criminal Justice System in its Report has, *inter alia*, recommended to make section 497 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 which is regarding offence of adultery, as gender neutral.

The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have been requested for their views on the recommendations contained in the above mentioned Report as the Criminal Law and the Criminal Procedure are on the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India.

Recommendations of Justice Ahamadi Committee Report on NHRC

828. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the NHRC sent its recommendations for improving its functions based on the Justice Ahamadi Committee Report to the Ministry of Home Affairs on March, 7, 2000;

(b) if so, Government's response in this regard and reasons for delaying to take up the remedial measures to strengthen Commission's functioning;

(c) whether it is a fact that the 7th annual report of the Commission alongwith the Memorandum of Action taken has not been laid on the Table of the Houses of Parliament; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Based on the recommendations of Justice Ahamadi Committee, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has suggested certain amendments to the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. The Government has initiated action in the matter.

(c) and (d) The 7th annual Report of the Commission alongwith the Memorandum of Action Taken has already been laid on the Table of both Houses of Parliament on 23-4-2002 and 24-4-2002 respectively.

Disuading Government servants from demanding dowry

829. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Bihar has enacted a new legislation disuading all newly recruited employees from demanding dowry;

(b) whether the Central Government also propose to bring forward such a legislation for its employees; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?